

### **REMARKS**

As a preliminary matter, consideration of the references cited in an Information Disclosure Statement filed on August 6, 2001 is requested. A copy of the PTO-1449 form is enclosed.

The Abstract and drawings have been amended as required.

Claims 1-20 stand rejected under §102 on the basis of Kuo. Applicants traverse this rejection because Kuo does not disclose (or suggest) a light shield film having overlap regions that overlap pixel electrodes, as in independent claim 1.

Numeral 410 in Kuo (Fig. 4E) does not refer to a light shield film, as indicated by the Examiner, but rather indicates a transparent insulating substrate. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and dependent claims 2-8, and 19-20, is respectfully requested.

Referring now to independent claim 9, Kuo does not disclose (or suggest) a light shield film formed on a transparent insulating substrate outside each of the pixel electrodes in normal alignment regions other than alignment defective regions of the liquid crystal, as in claim 9. Withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 9, and dependent claims 10-12, is respectfully requested.

Referring now to independent claim 13, Kuo fails to disclose (or suggest) a common electrode having steps for alignment restricting the liquid crystal in regions opposed to regions between each of the pixel electrodes and the drain bus lines, as in claim 13.

Withdrawal of this rejection, and the rejection of dependent claims 14-18, is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The examiner should call applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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